43 To Elizabeth Pease.

Paris Nov 29th 1848

GARRISON MSS.

My dear Friend.

Your kind note by the hands of Anne Knight was most welcome. The assurance of your health & of the continued interest of our British Friends in the Cause gave us the greatest Satisfaction. We have been very busy in selecting & forwarding a box of Paris articles for the Bazaar which I am sure will be most profitable if they do but reach Leamington. But as ill luck would have the three Southampton Steamers were all discharged at once, & we were left quite suddenly & unexpectedly with no other resource than the Havre Sailing packet which left on the 18th. There is a chance that it may arrive in season. I am thankful to hear of the success of General Taylor. The longer the new free Soil party can be kept out of the Presidential seat, the power they will be kept, & the more surely

will their political agitation produce a moral effect. Success would be their moral extinction. Abolitionists have now only to reiterate their testimony - keep up their Institutions & Lectures. Too many of their small number will undoubtedly be swept into the Free Soil movement — So much easier is it to be carried than to carry. Still the work of those who remain faithful will be less fatiguing than it has been, for the enemy is "drummed out of the camp." & our warfare is not with them who call themselves of our own household. I hope to be more useful here than at home to our cause, for I can do more financially, at least I hope to be able to do so. My time is entirely occupied for the present moment, with the education of my children, but my thoughts are at the same time devising plans for the cause. I like Paris. They tell me its air of Society & festivity is gone, but as I have no means of comparison in my own mind I can only say it still continues gay

enough for me. I think that a life-
long observation of the workings of republican
institutions, enables me to judge of the state
of things here in some senses better than the
Parisians, & I consequently feel more hope-
ful than many of them. "See," they say—
how grave every face you meet looks. it is
because of their anxiety what has come upon
the people since the late revolution." But I,
knowing experimentally that liberty is a serious
thing, & self-government the assumption of
a grave responsibility, cannot help augurin
good & not ill of this new face the people
wear. The Parisians see nothing before them
but civil war. They are unaware of the
large safety-valve afforded by free speech—
freedom of assemblage—a free press, whose ef-
fectual vents explosive, however appearances
may threaten. They fear
see in Louis Bonaparte
only a prince & disguised, & in Carvaignac only
a despot displayed; & they have yet to learn
by experiment that by the new order of things, both prince
& despot in destination, can only be functionaries
of their own in fact. The most intelligent men
of the nation, — the majority of the general
assembly for example, have learned this
& are ready to sustain Carvaignac, as their
own best servant & exponent. They are not yet

peaceably inclined to be fit masters
for a more peaceful domain like La Martinique.
If his health does not fail, he will be able
to come in sight again from Grand Lemps.
But I am becoming tedious. Pray
pardon it & believe me

Col. Wm. H. Watson
Office Surv. Gen.
26 Place St. Louis

Ever your affectionate friend

J. W. Chapman

All my family unite in kind
regards to you. We shall meet next year